Impact of Bilateral Agreement on the Valuation of AI

3830. SHRI K. J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V.V.RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently negotiated a number of new bilateral agreements and granted new/additional rights to several foreign airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the impact of this decision on the valuation of Air India and the bids received for purchase of the shares being sold ; and

(d) whether it has reduced Government's negotiating position ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) During the current year bilateral air services consultations have been held with Russia, Hongkong, Yugoslavia, Germany, SAS, Austria, UAE (Dubai) and Oman. During these discussions capacity entitlement has been enhanced by a total of about 6550 seats per week for each side in each direction. Besides the designated airline of Germany has also been allowed to utilize 2800 seats out of the unused entitlement of the Indian side subject to a commercial arrangement with the designated Indian Carrier.

(c) It will not have any impact on Air India's valuation as capacity entitlement is increased by equal amount for the designated airlines of both countries. On the other hand Air India has gained financially on account of income from the commercial arrangements with foreign airlines.

(d) No, Sir.

Arrangement of vehicles at airports for carrying passengers

† 3831. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether arrangements of vehicles have been made at certain airports to carry passengers to their restrictive destinations ;

(b) if so. whether contract for this purpose has been awarded to any private company; and

(c) if so, the details of the said company together with the contract ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India has awarded contract for providing Coach Services at the following airports:—

CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI INTERNATIONAL (CSI) AIRPORT, MUMBAI: Inter City Coach services from CSI Mumbai to Southern States terminated at Kerala to M/s. Akbar Travels, Mumbai, CSI Mumbai to Pune to M/s. Maa Travels, Mumbai.

INDIRA GANDHI INTERNATIONAL (IGI) AIRPORT, DELHI: IGI Airport, Delhi to Amritsar to M/s. Indo Canadian Transport Co., Amritsar.

In addition to the above, Inter Terminal Coach services are provided at CSI Mumbai and IGI Delhi as free services to passengers, besides the facility provided by Indian Airlines and Jet Airways. City Coach services from Delhi airport to ISBT and Connaught Place and from Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata to the city are also provided through contracts with private operators.

Impact of Lifting of QRs

3832. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the products that would have serious impact with the lifting of quantitative restrictions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to save those domestic industries from sickness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Standing Group to monitor the import of 300 sensitive items. The group consists of Commerce Secretary, Revenue Secretary, secretary (SSI and ARI). Secretary (Deptt, of Anmial Husbandry and Dairying), Secretary (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) and Director General of Foreign Trade. This group will be tracking, collating and analyzing import data of these 300 sensitive items. These items include, milk and milk powder, fruits and vegetables, poultry products, tea and coffee, spices, food grains, edible oils, alcoholic beverages, rubber, cotton and silk, marble and granite, automobiles, umbrella, locks, toys, writing instruments among others.